REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of February 11, 2008. Claims 2-26 and 29-37 are cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 1, 27, and 28 are reduced in scope to facilitate the speedy grant of a patent. No new matter is introduced by this Amendment. With this Amendment, amended claims 1, 27, and 28 are pending in the application.

Formal rejection

Claims 1-28 were rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as failing to define the invention properly. Office action, page 4. The term to which the Examiner objected, "derivative," has been removed from the claims, thereby obviating this ground of rejection.

Anticipation rejection

Claims 1-23 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by WO 96/25157 (Widdowson). Office Action, page 5. The nitro compound disclosed by Widdowson is not encompassed by claims 1 and 28 as amended herein. Withdrawal of the anticipation rejection is accordingly solicited.

Obviousness rejection

Claims 1-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as begin unpatentable over Widdowson. Office Action, pages 6-7. While Widdowson discloses certain urea compounds useful as IL-8 receptor antagonists, and WO 02/064139, WO 94/22807, and WO 00/01349 may teach analogous compounds useful for various other medical indications, none of the prior art references teaches or suggests the particular urea compounds to which Applicants' claims are now limited. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection is accordingly solicited.
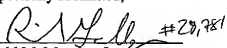
Contact information

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Richard Gallagher (Reg. No.

28,781) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Dated: May 8, 2008   Respectfully submitted,

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